

Before the FCC, Washington, DC 20554

Docket 07-294: Promoting diversity of ownership in the broadcasting services

Docket 07-148: Digital TV

RM No. 11384: Concerning Pre Sunrise & Post Sunset Service Authorizations for the AM Broadcast Service

Docket 07-172: Permitting AM stations rebroadcast signals on FM translators

Docket 00-244 Definition of Radio Markets

Docket 04-228 Ways to Further Section 257 Mandate to build on earlier studies

Docket 02-277 Review of the Commission's ownership rules

Submitted by Bouchard Broadcasting, Inc. DBA WNRI-AM Class D 1380 kHz, Woonsocket, RI

Our radio station is owned by 4 RI families, 3 of which live in the City of License, is finding our station is becoming more and more difficult to listen to, so say our listeners and we, as local residents can concur. As we investigate these complaints, we discover that interference from the Internet leaking from overhead wires can create so much noise, that our signal can be drowned out even in our primary service areas! Power lines generate amazing amounts of static interference even in the city we service! We also note that newly installed Light Emitting Diode (LED) traffic lights (hundreds of them per light signal) emit tremendous amounts of noise that permeates the AM band! The noise is so terrific at certain intersections that our station cannot be heard at these intersections until you drive away from the offending signals! Of course if we were on the FM band, no such interference would be heard. This summer, interference from distant stations is so strong, that our signal at 7:00 AM is being obliterated just 10 miles from our tower! Another new issue facing AM broadcasters is the noise being generated by HD AM radio.

We have always found it terribly unfair that Channel 6, WLNE-TV, licensed to New Bedford, MA, transmitting from Tiverton, RI lays down a tremendous FM signal. It's high time that WLNE-TV becomes just a TV station without the benefit of a free FM station at the bottom of the dial! Bouchard Broadcasting, Inc. would relish having a translator operating on 87.9, 87.7 or 87.5 once WLNE and WHDH TV (Boston) ceases operation this February. These frequencies can readily be received on current manufacture AM-FM radios and would allow our listeners an alternative when they are subjected to skywave or man-made interference mentioned herein.

The FM band here in southern New England is so congested, that while we are being told we can apply for FM translators, no frequencies are available. Well, we see at least three frequencies being freed up by WLNE TV and WHDH TV going off the air in 6 months and we respectfully request that we be given first chance to use one of these channels in northern Rhode Island for an FM translator to cover our primary signal area. We are asking for ONE, not 10 like other greedy broadcasters are requesting.

We have a long established record of local community service. Even though FCC records show that there is an FM station licensed to Woonsocket, there is no local presence of that station here in this city at all. This city deserves a local FM station and the FCC agreed when it licensed 106.3 MHz to WWON-FM long ago. But times and owners have changed and that station now playing hip-hop music is concerned only with METRO PROVIDENCE and transmits from Cumberland, RI. If WWKX-FM does not want to serve it's city of license and the FCC agrees with this, shouldn't we be given the chance to do so with a single FM translator?

Due to environmental issues, lack of available real estate and zoning, increasing our daytime power from 2500 to 5000 watts would only increase our signal by a mere 3 db. Not sufficient to overcome all the interference that has developed as of late.

We had also hoped that new calculations for nigh-time power would improve our situation due to the reduction of Canadian AM broadcasting but that has not materialized. So we ask the Commission to please consider the plight of Class D AM stations such as ours when deciding what to do with vacated frequencies, specifically Channel 200, 199 and 198.

Family owned radio stations not associated with big business and huge corporations have untold millions at their disposal. This is not the case with our company. When considering diversification, locally owned companies such as ours are becoming a small minority. As such, we deserve some special consideration under docket 07-294, due to our close relationship with the City of License.

Respectfully submitted:

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